



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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**Results** of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/) and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Pennsylvania's Annual Red Meat Production Increases Slightly in 2010

HARRISBURG, PA, April 26, 2011 --- Commercial red meat production in Pennsylvania during 2010 totaled 1,284 million pounds, dressed weight basis, up less than 1 percent from a year ago, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Commercial cattle slaughter, at 960,800 head, was up 32,300 head from last year. Of this number, 943,766 head were slaughtered in federally inspected plants. Beef production, at 1,184.6 million pounds live weight, was up 2.8 percent from 2009. Average live weight per head was 1,246 pounds, a decrease of 9 pounds per head from last year. Commercial calf slaughter, at 119,600 head, was down 9,900 head from a year ago. Veal production, at 51.3 million pounds live weight, was down 7 percent from a year ago. Average live weight increased 3 pounds per head to 429 pounds. Commercial hog slaughter, at 2,910,400 head, was down 97,900 head from last year. Of this number, 2,897,900 head were slaughtered in federally inspected plants. Pork production was 756.0 million pounds live weight, down 2.4 percent from 2009. Average live weight increased 2 pounds per head to 260 pounds. Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter, at 38,200 head, down 8,100 head from last year. Of this number, 36,877 head were slaughtered in federally inspected plants. Lamb and mutton production was 3.72 million pounds live weight, down 18.1 percent from a year ago. The average live weight decreased 1 pound to 97 pounds per head. Federally inspected goat slaughter, at 16,701 head slaughtered for the year of 2010 at 44 plants across Pennsylvania. There were an estimated 214 commercial slaughter plants in Pennsylvania on January 1, 2011, down from 234 a year ago. Ninety-one of these plants were under federal inspection.

**Nationally**, red meat production in commercial plants and on farms totaled 49.2 billion pounds in 2010, slightly lower than the previous year. Beef production, at 26.4 billion pounds, was up 1 percent from the previous year. Veal production totaled 145 million pounds, down 2 percent from last year. Pork production, at 22.5 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Lamb and mutton production totaled 168 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2009. There were 841 plants slaughtering under federal inspection in the U.S. on January 1, 2011, compared with 834 last year. Of these, 632 slaughtered at least one head of cattle during 2010 with the 14 largest plants slaughtering 55 percent of the total cattle killed. Hogs were slaughtered at 611 plants, with the 12 largest plants accounting for 57 percent of the total. Likewise, 5 of the 248 plants that slaughtered calves accounted for 56 percent of the total and 4 of the 506 plants that slaughtered sheep or lambs in 2010 comprised 64 percent of the total head. Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Texas accounted for 49 percent of the U.S. commercial red meat production in 2010, down 1 percentage point from 2009.

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